

1 Nowadays mobility has become more predominant than ever before due to an unprecedented variety of sophisticated means of transport and globalization. This has led to an increase in the number of migrants which involves more contacts with individuals whose lifestyles, identities and languages are different than one's own. Once they embark upon the trek northward, the usual sense of ease they felt at home deserts them and they are seized by a fit of panic. This reflects their awareness that facing the unknown cannot be dissociated from experiencing culture shock.



2 When asked about the experience of migration, Ahmed admits that being displaced from one's home brings about mixed feelings of excitement at times and disquiet about accessing a strange world at others. "Will everything proceed as planned? Will my limited knowledge of the language enable me to be employed? How long will it take me to adapt? While adaptation is possible for me and my family, what about integration?" Ahmed kept wondering. "Once here, I began to reflect upon this new world, especially because it's totally different. At first, this highly organized social system, the neatly designed architecture and the clean streets made believe that this was the ideal place where I would improve my social status and have the best family life ever," he explained. "But I've lost everything and everybody," he said bitterly.



3 It seems that Hamid initially went through a kind of honeymoon stage in which novel experiences and the newly-accessed environment were appealing. "Here I'm no longer repelled but attracted to the foreign environment. The first question I couldn't help raising was: Can I achieve a sense of selfhood and realize my ambition of becoming myself here?" But this proved to be a short-lived feeling when some questions addressing selfhood emerged. "Unfortunately, as one moves deeper into the host country, this feeling of ecstasy starts to dissipate to be replaced by chronic anxiety and stress. "Even if you adopt some of the receiving country's values and beliefs to adjust to your new life, you end up losing your identity as well as being excluded."

4 Likewise, Abdelghafour's account reveals that for a migrant culture shock is inevitable. "It's obvious that a man from a developing country will easily notice a big dissimilarity between the two cultural backgrounds which leads to a difficulty in integration. When you talk to native speakers, you understand them and their perspective; but they will never understand your way of thinking." Like the other literate migrants, he has scraped his way through 'tourist, survivor, and emigrant' stages, but he cannot attain the fourth phase of 'citizen' despite his ability to speak the language.



I COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS) {BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}

A Say which of these sentences is a cause (C) of culture shock and which is an effect (E). (3 pts)

	Sentence	Cause	Effect
1	There is an unprecedented variety of sophisticated means of transport.
2	Once here, I began to reflect upon this new world.
3	There is a big dissimilarity between the two cultural backgrounds.

B Answer these questions. (3 pts)

- 1 What made Ahmed believe that in the host country he could have a better standard of living?
.....
.....
- 2 Which one of the three migrants wanted to achieve a kind of individuality and distinctiveness?
.....
.....
- 3 Why was it difficult for Abdelghafour to integrate into the host country?
.....
.....

C Say if the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY your answers. (2 pts)

- 1 Migrants feel comfortable once they move to the host country.
.....
.....
- 2 Ahmed still lives with his family in the host country.
.....
.....

D Find in the text words or expressions which mean the same as the following. (2 pts)

- 1 disappear (para 3):
- 2 succeeded (para 4):

E What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 pts)

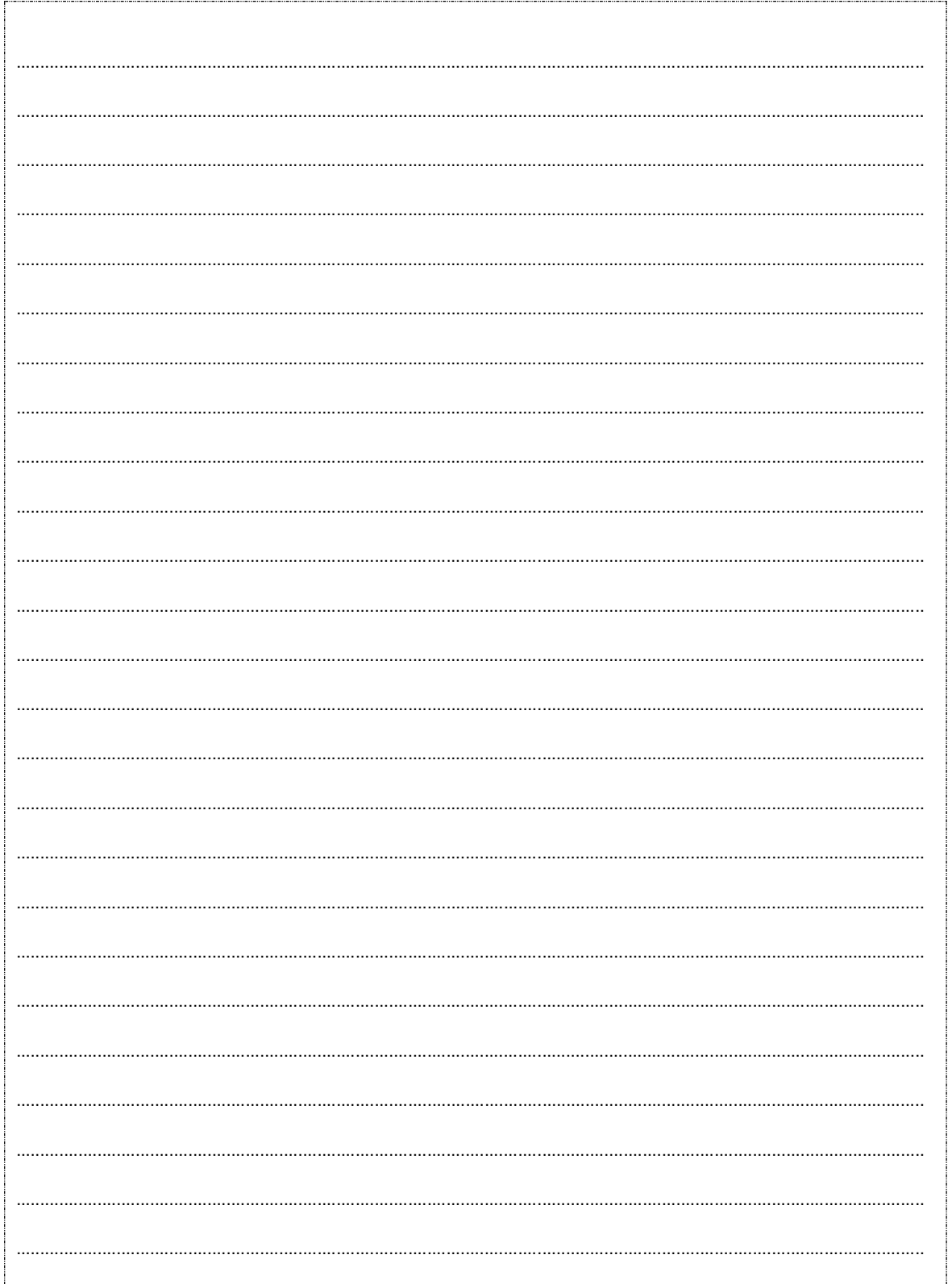
- 1 they (para 1):
- 2 here (para 3):

F Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (3 pts)

- 1 Being displaced from one's home not only brings about mixed feelings of excitement at times, but
- 2 Hamid adopted some of the receiving country's values and beliefs so that
- 3 Abdelghafour cannot attain the fourth phase of 'citizen' although

III WRITING (10 POINTS)

Many Moroccan youths travel abroad and finish their graduate and postgraduate studies in a foreign country. Some of them succeed and come back to Morocco in order to settle here and serve their native country. Others stay there so as to make their way. What do you personally think? Write an essay in which you list the benefits and problems of studying abroad.

A large rectangular area with a dotted border, intended for writing an essay. The area is empty and occupies the lower two-thirds of the page.